

ADVANCING BLACK ARTS IN PITTSBURGH



2018 PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION PROCESS

The Pittsburgh Foundation and The Heinz Endowments jointly support Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh, a grant-making program committed to helping create a vibrant cultural life in Pittsburgh and the region. The foundations believe that a vibrant cultural life includes diverse cultural offerings that appeal to the widest array of the region's citizenry. Pittsburgh's cultural offerings are among its strongest competitive advantages and include the rich history and current presence of excellent black arts presentation and production.

At the same time, Pittsburgh's cultural landscape has not escaped national trends of systemic social and economic disparities around race in the arts, as well as racial segregation that deeply impacts the region's cultural life. Black arts organizations and professional black artists whose work focuses on the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger African diaspora have historically been under-resourced and often have far less working capital than their counterparts working in western European-based art forms. Less working capital has significant ramifications for the quality and quantity of black arts programming and the standard of living for those presenting in the region: Health insurance is a luxury, artistic risk-taking is curtailed, child care is unobtainable and outreach programming to schools is reduced. Individual artists are less likely to find sustainable employment in chosen art forms, visibility within the arts landscape is constrained and organizational growth is made much more difficult.

Creating an equitable arts ecology within the region is a core value of the Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Initiative and its funders. The program goals are to:

- Help to build the careers and support the lives of individual artists.
- Increase the sustainability of cultural organizations that focus on black arts.
- Build community awareness of the black arts sector.
- Support efforts toward greater collaboration and the elimination of racial disparities within the larger arts sector.
- Prioritize the documentation and discussion of black artists' work and well-being as part of the region's cultural health.
- Support work that directly addresses and calls for the eradication of systemic and structural racism that allows for disparities to exist.

PROGRAM DEADLINES

- Individual Artist Support/Artist Residency: Aug. 1, 2018, for funding decisions by Oct. 31.
- Special Project Support: Aug. 15, 2018, for funding decisions by Oct. 31.

All applications are due at 11:59 p.m. on the day of the program deadline.

Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Initiative is comprised of:

Individual Artist Support

Individual artists in any discipline whose work focuses on black art – defined as the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger African diaspora – may apply for grants up to \$15,000 to support creative and career development, creation of new works and self-productions. Presentation of a fully realized work is not required.

Residencies at Arts or Community-Based Organizations

Artist residency support is available to any arts or community-based organization interested in hosting artists whose work focuses on the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger African diaspora. Organizations seeking residencies may apply for amounts up to \$20,000.

Special Project Support

Project support through the Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Initiative is intended to support small arts organizations and authentically collaborative efforts. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be made to support projects that culminate in a programmatic activity with public presentation.

General Operating Support

A group of nonprofit cultural organizations whose focus is the production and/or presentation of black art will be invited to apply for general operating support. *Operating support is provided by invitation only.*

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST SUPPORT

Individual artists in any discipline whose work focuses on black art, defined as the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger African diaspora, may apply for grants up to \$15,000 to support creative and career development, creation of new works and self-productions. Presentation of a fully realized work is not required.

ELIGIBILITY

- Artists must be residents of the Pittsburgh region.
- Previous grantees are eligible to apply one year after the close of their grant. Grantees in 2017 are eligible to reapply in 2019.

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Artist Statement

Discuss the philosophy/approach that supports your creative work (such as influences, processes, tools/medium choice and artistic goals) and your career trajectory to this point. Please also upload a CV/resume in the media uploads section of the application.

Project Goals

What are the artistic goals of the project? Describe the nature of the project's contribution to the presence of black art in the local cultural landscape. How does it relate to your creative development as an artist?

Location

Describe the site where activities will take place. What resources (studio/rehearsal/performance space, equipment, etc.) are needed or available?

Timeline

Provide a timeline of key tasks. Activities to be funded by this grant request should not begin sooner than three months following the stated funding decision announcement date.

Evaluation

Describe measurable outcomes, including artistic outcomes, community engagement activities, attendance projections, etc.

MEDIA UPLOADS

Each applicant is allowed a total of five media uploads: Use one media upload to submit your budget and one to submit background materials (including CV/resume). The remaining three uploads are available to you to submit your work samples.

Detailed Budget (PDF)

Provide a balanced project budget that itemizes revenues (including the requested amount of this grant) and expenses related to activities described above. Where appropriate, show calculations that make clear how you arrived at the numbers you project. List any revenue sources in addition to this request, indicating which are pending and which are confirmed. List the estimated value and use of in-kind donations separately.

Sample Work (PDFs, videos, images, MP3s)

Panelists will review a maximum of 10 pages of written work, 15 images or five minutes of video or audio. You may provide links to works available online on YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Work samples should represent the strongest artistic achievements to date and provide an understanding of the artist's body of work. If a work sample is the product of collaboration, include a description of the lead artist's/organization's role in the work's creation. To upload multiple images, save them as a multi-page PDF and upload as a single document. If providing links to sources outside of YouTube, Vimeo or SoundCloud, please submit live website links via a PDF document that includes a description of content.

Please note: Funds awarded to individuals through this grants program are not excludable from gross income and must be reported to the IRS. Please consult a tax professional to review the impact of this grant on your personal tax liability. Grantees will be required to submit an IRS Form W9 as an individual and a signed grant agreement.

RESIDENCIES AT ARTS AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Arts or community-based organizations may apply for grants up to \$20,000 to host artists whose work focuses on the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger African diaspora.

Residencies should last a minimum of three months to a maximum of 18 months. Applications will be reviewed and recommendations made to foundation staff by a peer panel comprised of local and national experts from a variety of artistic disciplines. Residencies should include some element of in-depth public interaction with professional artist(s) such as studio tours, public lectures, presentation of works-in-progress, events with members of the local arts community, workshops and classes.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant organizations must be 501(c)(3) organizations (or work with a fiscal sponsor) located in the Pittsburgh region.
- Competitive residency proposals will demonstrate significant artist involvement in the development of the residency.
- Two-thirds of project costs should be directly related to artist fees or production expenses.
- Previous grantee organizations are eligible to apply one year after the close of their grant. Grantees in 2017 are eligible to reapply in 2019.

RESIDENCY PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Organizational History

Please provide a summary of the residency host organization's history and mission. Arts organizations should provide a brief statement of their artistic vision. All applicants should provide information about their involvement in providing cultural programming in the past, and/or information about how this project connects to your organization's mission. What experience does the organization have hosting artist residencies? Please include specific examples of residencies that have been previously carried out.

Partnership

If this is a new partnership, please describe how it began and the benefits that each partner is hoping to receive because of this effort.

Artist Statement

Discuss the philosophy/approach that supports your creative work (such as influences, processes, tools/medium choice and artistic goals) and your career trajectory to this point. Please also upload a CV/resume in the media uploads section of the application.

Project Goals

What are the artistic goals of the project? Describe the nature of the project's contribution to the presence of black art in the local cultural landscape. How does it relate to your creative development as an artist?

Location

Describe the site where activities will take place. What resources (studio/rehearsal/performance space, equipment, etc.) are needed or available?

Timeline

Provide a timeline of key tasks. Activities to be funded by this grant request should not begin sooner than three months following the stated funding decision announcement date.

Evaluation

Describe measurable outcomes, including artistic outcomes, community engagement activities, attendance projections, etc.

MEDIA UPLOADS

Each applicant is allowed a total of five media uploads: Use one media upload to submit your budget and one to submit background materials, including CV/resume of artist in residence; IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter for the applicant organization or fiscal sponsor; fiscal sponsor agreement signed by both parties, if applicable; and the most recently completed audited financial statement for 501(c)(3) organization. The remaining three uploads are available to you to submit your work samples.

Detailed Budget (PDF)

Please provide, using your own format, a detailed statement of proposed income and expenses for your project. Please indicate where income is actually received, requested or anticipated. List any revenue sources in addition to this request, indicating which are pending and which are confirmed. Separate residency costs from other organizational expenses. Artist's fees or production expenses should equal at least two-thirds of the residency budget. Organizations must submit both project and operating budgets.

Sample Work (PDFs, videos, images, MP3s)

Panelists will review a maximum of 10 pages of written work, 15 images or five minutes of video or audio. You may provide links to works available online on YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Work samples should represent the strongest artistic achievements to date and provide an understanding of the artist's body of work and the organization's capacity to host the residency. If a work sample is the product of collaboration, include a description of the lead artist's/organization's role in the work's creation. To upload multiple images, save them as a multi-page PDF and upload as a single document. If providing links to sources outside of YouTube, Vimeo or SoundCloud, please submit live website links via a PDF document that includes a description of content.

SPECIAL PROJECT SUPPORT

Project support through the Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Initiative is intended to support small arts organizations and authentically collaborative efforts. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be made to support projects that culminate and result in a programmatic activity with public presentation.

This funding stream is separate from the Individual Artist and Residency support program stream. Please review the Individual Artist and Residency guidelines to determine which funding stream and criteria best fits your project's purpose.

The Special Project funding stream **does not** make project grants to support youth-centered programs; human service, community development, or educational organizations that utilize the arts; capital projects; or operating support.

ELIGIBILITY

Arts Organizations must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements:

- Classified as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or have a relationship with a fiscal sponsor. Please see information on [fiscal sponsorship here](#).
- Operate in the Pittsburgh region.
- Have a history of producing or presenting.
- Demonstrate reasonable attendance by, as well as accessibility to, a broad and diverse public audience.
- Have annual budget of \$300,000 or less.
- Previous grantee organizations are eligible to apply one year after the close of their grant. Grantees in 2017 are eligible to reapply in 2019. Operating support grantees are not eligible for project support.

SPECIAL PROJECT NARRATIVE

Organization History

Please provide a brief summary of the organization's history and mission. Arts organizations should provide a brief statement of their artistic vision. All applicants should provide information about their involvement in providing cultural programming in the past, and/or information about how this project connects to your organization's mission.

Artist Statement

Discuss the philosophy/approach that supports the creative work proposed (such as influences, processes, tools/medium choice and artistic goals). Please also upload a CV/resume in the media uploads section of the application.

Project Goals

What are the artistic goals of the project? Describe the nature of the project's contribution to the presence of black art in the local cultural landscape. How does it relate to the

creative development of the artist(s) involved? For applicant organizations, how does it relate to the organization's mission?

Impact/Outcomes

What impact will this project have on black arts in the region? Describe three clearly measurable success indicators.

Location

Describe the site where activities will take place. What resources (studio/rehearsal/performance space, equipment, etc.) are needed or available?

Timeline

Provide a timeline of key tasks. Activities to be funded by this grant request should not begin sooner than three months following the stated funding decision announcement date.

Marketing and Audience Development

How will you reach the audience the organization has targeted as a potential market for this project? What engagement activities do you have planned (pre- and post-production) to assist with audience development?

Evaluation

Describe measurable outcomes, including artistic outcomes, attendance projections, etc.

MEDIA UPLOADS

Each applicant is allowed a total of five media uploads. Use one media upload to submit your budget and one to submit background materials, including CV/resume of artist in residence; IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter for the applicant organization or fiscal sponsor; fiscal sponsor agreement signed by both parties, if applicable; and the most recently completed audited financial statement for 501(c)(3) organization. The remaining three uploads are available to you to submit your work samples.

Detailed Budgets (PDF)

Please provide, using your own format, a detailed statement of proposed income and expenses for your project. Please indicate where income is actually received, requested or anticipated. List any revenue sources in addition to this request, indicating which are pending and which are confirmed. Artist's fees or production expenses should equal at least two-thirds of the budget. Organizations must submit both project and operating budgets as one PDF.

Sample Work (PDFs, videos, images, MP3s)

Panelists will review a maximum of 10 pages of written work, 15 images or a maximum of five minutes of video or audio. You may provide links to works available online on YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Work samples should represent the strongest artistic achievements to date and provide an understanding of the body of work of the artist(s) and

the organization's capacity to carry out the project. If a work sample is the product of collaboration, include a description of the role(s) of the artist(s)/organization in the work's creation. To upload multiple images, save them as a multi-page PDF and upload as a single document. If providing links to sources outside of YouTube, Vimeo or SoundCloud, please submit live website links via a PDF document that includes a description of content.

Multi-disciplinary artists may submit more than one type of media, but the overall amount of work submitted should roughly equal the single-media work sample sizes described above. Be sure to label all work samples properly (title of work, medium, date created, size/length). If work is the product of a collaboration, include a description of your role in the work's creation. You may provide links to works available online (e.g., YouTube, Vimeo, SoundCloud) but should include instructions on where the video or audio files are to be cued to start the selection to be reviewed by panelists. Material must be accessible without a password in order for it to be viewed within the SlideRoom platform. If you require password protection, please submit a link and the password in a PDF document. Work samples over the limits described above will be viewed at panelists' discretion. Please indicate which samples are your primary work samples for review.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

ARTS OR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION: An arts organization is defined as an IRS-registered, 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation or organization working with a fiscal sponsor with a mission to produce or present work in dance, film/video, digital applications, literature, music, theatre, traditional/folk arts, visual arts or interdisciplinary work. For the purpose of this application, a community-based organization is one that works at a local level to improve life for residents and has a mission-focus other than in the arts. Eligible organizations may be of any budget size and must demonstrate the capacity to implement proposed activities. University arts departments, history museums or other nonprofit cultural entities are also eligible if a strong track record and/or effective support system for working with creative artists can be demonstrated.

RESIDENCY: A residency is defined as an immersive period during which an artist has access to the resources of a host arts organization for the expressed purpose of developing artistic work. The artist does not need to reside continuously in the region, but both the artist and organization must engage each other in an active exchange that adds value to both the artistic work and the host organization.

PITTSBURGH REGION: Artists and arts organizations located in the following counties are eligible to apply for funding: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland.

HOW TO APPLY

These guidelines define program eligibility and provide instructions for submitting applications to the 2018 Individual Artist Support Grant, Residencies at Arts or Community-Based Organizations and Special Project Support.

All support material (budget sheets, sample work, and supplemental background materials — including CV/resume) must be submitted online via the program’s applicant portal at: <https://pittsburgharts.slideroom.com>

To begin, applicants must establish an account. Once you have an account, you may start and complete your submission in the same session, or save your work and finish the proposal at a later date.

All 2018 applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, March 1 (grant cycle one) or Wednesday, August 1 (grant cycle two). Projects may begin when the required grant documents are returned. Grantees will be required to submit a final report on the project one year from the date of the grant award.

QUESTIONS?

For more information, visit:

<https://pittsburghfoundation.org/advancing-black-arts-pittsburgh>

or

<http://www.heinz.org/strategic-areas/creativity/advancing-black-arts-in-pittsburgh>

Individual Artist Support and Residencies at Arts or Community-Based Organizations:

Celeste Smith, Program Officer for Arts and Culture, The Pittsburgh Foundation, smithc@pghfdn.org – (412) 394-2625.

General Operating & Special Project Support:

Shaunda McDill, Program Officer, Arts & Culture within Creativity Strategic Area, The Heinz Endowments, shaunda@heinz.org or (412) 338-2653.

LEARN MORE ABOUT FOUNDATION INITIATIVES:

- [100 Percent Pittsburgh](#)
- [Just Pittsburgh](#)